

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A method utilizing a team of heterogeneously  
2 sharing network interfaces providing ~~operating in adapter fault tolerance mode to~~  
3 ~~provide~~ primary and secondary use processing of data, comprising:  
4           receiving data for processing by said team, ~~said team having a primary network~~  
5 ~~interface and at least one secondary network interface;~~  
6           assigning processing of said received data to a first member of said team;  
7           ~~if said data is primary use processing, then processing and transmitting said data~~  
8 ~~by the first member of said team the primary network interface; and~~  
9           if said data is secondary use processing, determining if the first member lacks a  
10 capability required for processing said data, and if so, then distributing processing of  
11 said data across said secondary network interfaces to at least one second member of  
12 said team having the capability, for transparent processing by the at least one second  
13 member on behalf of the first member, wherein said transparent processing facilitates  
14 heterogeneous sharing of said team even if the first member lacks the capability.

15           2.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, in which network interfaces  
16 have Media Access Control (MAC) addresses, the method further comprising:  
17           setting the MAC address for the second member of said team to the MAC  
18 address of the first member of said team

1        ~~loading a driver for the team of network interfaces, said driver configuring said~~  
2        ~~team to operate in adapter fault tolerance mode and designating the primary network~~  
3        ~~interface and the at least one secondary network interface;~~  
4        ~~wherein said distributing processing is according to a workload of said secondary~~  
5        ~~network interfaces.~~

6        3.        (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, in which network interfaces  
7        have Media Access Control (MAC) addresses, the method further comprising:  
8        temporarily setting the MAC address for the second member of said team to the  
9        MAC address of the first member of said team while the second member performs said  
10       transparent processing on behalf of the first member of said team ~~where if said primary~~  
11       ~~network interface has available processing bandwidth, then distributing processing of~~  
12       ~~said data across all network interfaces of said team.~~

13       4.        (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said distributing  
14       processing is according to a workload of each of said team of network interfaces  
15       supporting the capability.

16       5.        (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing said data includes  
17       encrypting said data according to IPSEC.

18       6.        (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
19       receiving data for secondary use processing from an operating system.

20       7.        (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
21       receiving data for secondary use processing from an application programming  
22       interface configured to submit data for secondary use processing by said team.

1           8.     (Currently Amended) An accessible readable medium having associated  
2 encoded thereon instructions for heterogeneously sharing utilizing a team of network  
3 interfaces providing operating in adapter fault tolerance mode to provide primary and  
4 secondary use processing of data, said instructions, when accessed by a machine,  
5 directs by directing a the machine processor to:

6           receive data for processing by said team, ~~said team having a primary network~~  
7 ~~interface and at least one secondary network interface;~~

8           assign processing of said received data to a first member of said team;

9           ~~if said data is primary use processing, then process and transmit said data by the~~  
10 ~~primary network interface; and~~

11           if said data is secondary use processing, determin if the first member lacks a  
12 capability required for processing said data, and if so, then distribute processing of said  
13 data across said secondary network interfaces to at least one second member of said  
14 team having the capability, for transparent processing by the at least one second  
15 member on behalf of the first member, wherein said transparent processing facilitates  
16 heterogeneous sharing of said team even if the first member lacks the capability.

17           9.     (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 8, in which network interfaces  
18 have Media Access Control (MAC) addresses, and said instructions including further  
19 instructions to direct the processor to:

20           set the MAC address for the second member of said team to the MAC address of  
21 the first member of said team

~~load a driver for a team of network interfaces to configure said team to operate in  
adapter fault tolerance mode and designate the primary network interface and the at  
least one secondary network interface; and  
distribute processing according to a workload of said secondary network  
interfaces.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 8, in which network interfaces  
have Media Access Control (MAC) addresses, and said instructions including further  
instructions to direct the processor to:

temporarily set the MAC address for the second member of said team to the  
MAC address of the first member of said team while the second member performs said  
transparent processing on behalf of the first member of said team

~~determine if said primary network interface has available processing bandwidth,  
and if so, distribute processing of said data across all network interfaces of said team.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 8, said instructions including  
further instructions to direct the processor to:

distribute processing of said data according to a workload of each of said team of  
network interfaces supporting the capability.

12. (Original) The medium of claim 8, said instructions including further  
instructions to:

direct the processor to encrypt said data according to IPSEC.

13. (Original) The medium of claim 8, said instructions including further  
instructions to:

1           direct the processor to receive data for secondary use processing from an  
2           operating system.

3           14.     (Original) The medium of claim 8, said instructions including further  
4           instructions to direct the processor to:

5                 receive data for secondary use processing from an application programming  
6           interface configured to submit data for secondary use processing by said team.

7           15.     (Currently Amended) A method for utilizing a team of network interfaces  
8           operating in adaptive load balancing mode to provide primary and secondary use  
9           processing of data, comprising:

10                 identifying active and failed network interfaces of said team;

11                 receiving data for processing and transmission by said team;

12                 if said data is primary use processing, then distributing processing of said data  
13           across said active network interfaces of said team; and

14                 if said data is secondary use processing, then distributing processing of said data  
15           across all active and failed network interfaces of said team, wherein if a first network  
16           interface of said team lacks a capability required to process said data, then  
17           transparently routing said data to a second network interface of said team supporting  
18           the capability.

19           16.     (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

20                 loading a driver for said team, said driver configuring said team to operate in the  
21           adaptive load balancing mode and appear to be a single network interface.

22           17.     (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

1 receiving, by a first one of said team of network interfaces, a portion of said

2 received data for processing; and

3 identifying the capability is a processing mode required for processing said

4 portion;

5 ~~determining if said first one supports the processing mode; and~~

6 ~~if not, then submitting processing of said portion to a second one of said team of~~  
7 ~~network interfaces.~~

8 18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

9 installing said team of network interfaces in a computing device having an  
10 operating system; and

11 receiving data for secondary use processing from said operating system.

12 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein an application programming

13 interface is configured to submit data for secondary use processing by said team.

14 20. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

15 installing said team of network interfaces in a computing device having an  
16 operating system; and

17 receiving data for secondary use processing from an application programming  
18 interface configured to submit data for secondary use processing by said team.

19 21. (Currently Amended) An accessible readable medium having associated

20 ~~encoded thereon~~ instructions for utilizing a team of network interfaces operating in

21 adaptive load balancing mode to provide primary and secondary use processing of

1 data, said instructions, when accessed by a machine, directs ~~by directing a~~ the machine  
2 processor to:

3       identify active and failed network interfaces of said team;  
4       receive data for processing and transmission by said team;  
5       determine if said data is primary use processing, and if so, then distribute  
6 processing of said data across said active network interfaces of said team; and  
7       determine if said data is secondary use processing, and if so, then distribute  
8 processing of said data across all active and failed network interfaces of said team,  
9 wherein if a first network interface of said team lacks a capability required to process  
10 said data, then routing said data to a second network interface of said team supporting  
11 the capability.

12       22.     (Original) The medium of claim 21, said instructions including further  
13 instructions to direct the processor to:

14       load a driver for said team, said driver configuring said team to operate in the  
15 adaptive load balancing mode and appear to be a single network interface.

16       23.     (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 21, said instructions including  
17 further instructions to direct the processor to:

18       receive a portion of said received data for processing by a first one of said team  
19 of network interfaces;

20       identify the capability is a processing mode required for processing said portion;

21       determine if said first one supports the processing mode; and

1       ~~submit processing of said portion to a second one of said team of network~~  
2 ~~interfaces.~~

3       24.     (Currently Amended) The medium ~~method~~ of claim 21, said instructions  
4 including further instructions to direct the processor to:  
5       receive data for secondary use processing from an operating system.

6       25.     (Currently Amended) The medium ~~method~~ of claim 21, said instructions  
7 including further instructions to direct the processor to:  
8       receive data for secondary use processing from an application programming  
9 interface ~~is~~ configured to submit data for secondary use processing by said team.